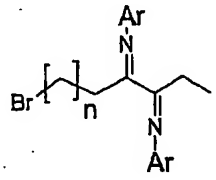
Please add the following claims.

14. **(New)** A method for the preparation of a supported catalyst component comprising:

a) providing a halogenated bisimine precursor characterized by the formula



(I)

wherein each Ar is the same or different and is independently a phenyl group or a substituted phenyl group having from 1 to 3 alkyl substituents;

b) reacting said halogenated bisimine precursor with an ionic liquid precursor in a solvent to prepare an ionic liquid;

c) reacting said ionic liquid with a metallocene precursor characterized by the formula

$$L_2MY_2 \qquad \text{(II)}$$

wherein L is a labile ligand, M is a nickel or palladium, and Y is a halogen; and

d) recovering a supported single site catalyst component from the reaction of subparagraph c).

15. **(New)** The method of claim 14 wherein each Ar is a alkyl substituted phenyl group having from 1 -3 alkyl substituents selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, and isopropyl groups.

16. **(New)** The method of claim 15 wherein each of said phenyl groups has substituents at the 2 and 3 positions.

17. **(New)** The method of claim 15 wherein each of said substituted phenyl groups has substituents at the 2, 4 and 6 positions.

18. **(New)** The method of claim 17 wherein each of said substituted phenyl groups is a 2, 4, 6 trimethyl phenyl group.

19. **(New)** The method of claim 14 wherein the ionic liquid precursor is an N –alkyl-imidazole or pyridine.

20. **(New)** The method of claim 14 further comprising prior to subparagraph c) reacting said ionic liquid with an ionic compound characterized by the formula C^+A^-, wherein C^+ is a cation selected from the group consisting of K^+, Na^+, NH_4^+, and A^- is an anion selected from the group consisting of PF_6^-, SbF_6^- BF_4^-, $(CF_3\text{-}SO_2)_2N^-$, ClO_4^-, $CF_3SO_3^-$, NO_3^- and $CF_3CO_2^-$.

21. **(New)** The method of claim 14 wherein said solvent is selected from a group consisting of tetrahydrofuron, methylene dichloride, and acetonnitrile.

22. **(New)** A method for the preparation of an alpha olefin polymer comprising:

a) providing a catalyst system comprising a supported single site catalyst component produced by the process of claim 14 and an activating agent for said catalyst component;

b) introducing said catalyst system in an apolar solvent and an alpha olefin monomer into a polymerization reactor,

c) operating said reactor under polymerization conditions; and

d) recovering an alpha olefin polymer product from said reactor.

23. **(New)** The method of claim 22 wherein said alpha olefin monomer comprises ethylene or propylene.

24. **(New)** The method of claim 23 wherein said apolar solvent is n-heptane.

25. **(New)** The method of claim 23 wherein said activating agent is methylalumoxane and wherein the polymer product recovered from said polymerization reactor is in the form of chips and blocks.

26. **(New)** The process of claim 25 wherein the polymer product recovered from said reactor contains chips in an amount of less than 25 weight percent of the total weight of the polymer.

27. **(New)** The method of claim 25 wherein said methyalumoxane is employed in an amount to provide a ratio of aluminum to the metal M within the range of 100 – 1,000.

28. **(New)** The method of claim 25 wherein the polymer product recovered from said polymerization reactor comprises a mixture of chips having a particle size of from 0.5 -5mm and blocks having a size from 5mm to 5cm wherein the amount of chips in said polymer product is less than 25 weight percent.

29. **(New)** The method of claim 28 wherein the amount of chips in said polymer product is less than 15 weight percent.

30. **(New)** A catalyst component supported on an ionic liquid produced by the process of claim 14.

31. **(New)** A catalyst system comprising the catalyst component of claim 30 and an activating agent.

32. **(New)** The catalyst system of claim 31 wherein said activating agent is methylalumoxane.

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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